

(19)日本国特許庁(JP)

(12)特許公報(B2)

(11)特許出願公告番号

特公平6-75667

(24)(44)公告日 平成6年(1994)9月28日

(51)Int.Cl.⁵

識別記号

庁内整理番号

F I

技術表示箇所

B 0 1 D 71/68

9153-4D

発明の数 1 (全 5 頁)

(21)出願番号 特願昭60-80371

(22)出願日 昭和60年(1985)4月17日

(65)公開番号 特開昭61-238306

(43)公開日 昭和61年(1986)10月23日

(71)出願人 999999999

東レ株式会社

東京都中央区日本橋室町2丁目2番1号

(72)発明者 島垣 昌明

滋賀県大津市園山1丁目1番1号 東レ株式会社滋賀事業場内

(72)発明者 田中 和実

滋賀県大津市園山1丁目1番1号 東レ株式会社滋賀事業場内

(72)発明者 野木 立男

滋賀県大津市園山1丁目1番1号 東レ株式会社滋賀事業場内

審査官 山田 泰之

最終頁に続く

(54)【発明の名称】 ポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜の製造方法

1

【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 ポリスルホン系樹脂と親水性高分子を混和溶解した溶液に該ポリスルホン系樹脂に対して非溶媒もしくは膨潤剤なる添加剤を加えた系を製膜原液として用い、成形した膜を架橋することを特徴とするポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜の製造方法。

【請求項2】 親水性高分子が、ポリビニルピロリドンである特許請求の範囲第1項に記載のポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜の製造方法。

【発明の詳細な説明】

〔産業上の利用分野〕

本発明は、ポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜の製造方法に関する。

〔従来の技術〕

従来、半透膜の素材としては、セルロースアセテート・

2

ポリアクリロニトリル・ポリメタクリル酸メチル・ポリアミド等多数の高分子化合物が用いられてきた。一方、ポリスルホン系樹脂は、元来エンジニアリングプラスチックとして使用されてきたが、その耐熱安定性、耐酸・耐アルカリ性、そして生体適合性、耐汚染性が良好であることから、半透膜素材として注目されている。

ポリスルホン系樹脂をも用いた半透膜を得る方法として従来より例えば、ジャーナル・オブ・アプライド・ポリマー・サイエンス(20巻、2377~2394頁、1976年)及び、(同21巻、1883~1900頁、1977年)、特開昭58-194940号公報等が提案されている。しかし該樹脂は、分子間凝集力が強すぎて、表面の孔や貫通すべき内部の孔を閉塞してしまうため孔形成の制御が困難となる。このため、分画分子量が10万以下と小さくかつ透水性も小さいものしか得られていない。

10

一方、近年、ポリスルホン系樹脂を用いた膜で、表面に大きな孔をあける試みとして、次のような手段が提案されている。

- ① 異種ポリマー間のミクロン相分離を利用する方法。
(特公昭48-176号公報、特開昭54-144456号公報、同57-50506号公報、同57-50507号公報、同57-50508号公報)
- ② 製膜後、抽出・溶出操作を有する方法。(特開昭54-26283号公報、同57-35906号公報、同58-91822号公報)
- ③ 製膜原液の準安定液体分散状態で製膜する方法。
(特開昭56-154051号公報、同59-58041号公報、同59-183761号公報、同59-189903号公報)
- ④ 紡糸時に工夫をこらす方法(特開昭59-228016号公報)

しかし、①の方法ではポリマー間の凝固速度の違いを利用しているのみで、分画分子量10万以上の大きな孔を得るに至っていない。その上、大量にブレンドするため、ポリスルホン系樹脂の本来の良好な性能が失われやすい。また、②の方法は、ブレンドポリマーの抽出と無機顆粒を溶出する大きく2つの方法に分類される。前者においては、ポリエチレングルコール、ポリビニルピロリドンが主たるポリマーであるが、十分な孔径を得ることや抽出操作が困難であった。後者の例では、前記特開昭58-91822号公報で、シリカパウダーを混入して製膜後、アルカリを用いて溶出させ、 $0.05\mu\text{m}$ 以上の大きな孔をあけるのに成功しているが、この製造方法では同一製膜原液から他の孔径分布をとる膜を製造することはできない。③の方法は製膜原液にポリスルホン系樹脂の非溶媒もしくは膨潤剤を大量に混合し、該製膜原液が相分離する直前のところで製膜するものである。かかる方法では、凝固浴の温度効果を有利に利用できない欠点がある。④の方法は、製膜時に高湿度の風を吹きつけること*

*で、該表面での孔径拡大を実現しているが、該方法では片面にしかその効果はなく、特に中空糸膜に至っては、分画分子量は小さい範囲のものしか得られない。これら従来のポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜の製造方法は、その製膜原液が低温で相分離する特徴を有するものである。このため製膜時に凝固浴中の非溶媒等と膜中の良溶媒との交換速度を上げようとして凝固浴温度を上げても製膜原液が均一系の方へ平衡移動するため、表面に緻密層ができやすいという欠点と、同じ原液から透水性・分画分子量を広範囲に持つ種々の半透膜を製造し得ないという欠点を有するものであった。

〔発明が解決しようとする問題点〕

本発明者らは、上記欠点を解析し、鋭意検討した結果本発明に到達した。特に、透水性、分画分子量を広範囲にとることができ、かつ、目づまりや汚れがおこりにくい、ポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜の製造方法を提供することを目的とする。

〔問題点を解決するための手段〕

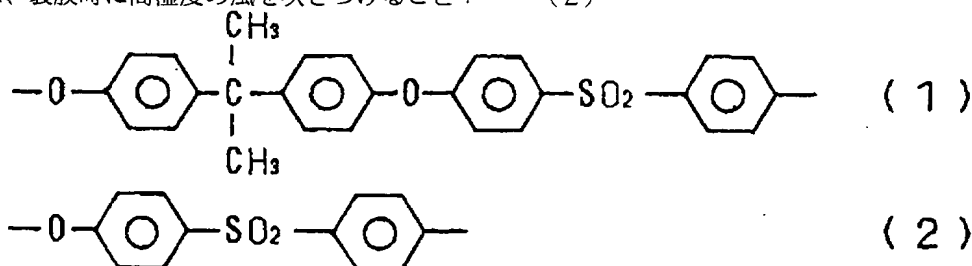
本発明は次の構成を有する。すなわち、

- (1) ポリスルホン系樹脂と親水性高分子を混和溶解した溶液に該ポリスルホン系樹脂に対して非溶媒もしくは膨潤剤なる添加剤を加えた系を製膜原液として用い、成形した膜を架橋することを特徴とするポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜の製造方法。

(2) 親水性高分子が、ポリビニルピロリドンである特許請求の範囲第1項に記載のポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜の製造方法である。

本発明においてポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜を製造するために用いる製膜原液は、基本的にはポリスルホン系樹脂

- (1)、親水性高分子(II)、溶媒(III)および添加剤(IV)からなる4成分系で構成される。ここで言うポリスルホン系樹脂(1)は、通常式(1)、または(2)



の繰り返し単位からなるものであるが、官能基を含んじたり、アルキル系のものであってもよく、特に限定するものではない。

親水性高分子(II)は、ポリスルホン系樹脂(1)と相溶性があり、かつ親水性を持つ高分子である。ポリビニルピロリドンが一番良く、他に変性ポリビニルピロリドン、共重合ポリビニルピロリドン、ポリ酢酸ビニル、ポリエチレングリコール等が挙げられるが、これらに限定

されるものではない。

溶媒(III)は、ポリスルホン系樹脂(1)及び親水性高分子(II)を共に溶解する溶媒である。ジメチルスルホキシド、ジメチルアセトアミド、ジメチルホルムアミド、N-メチル-2-ピロリドン、ジオキサン等、多種の溶媒が用いられるが、特にジメチルアセトアミド、ジメチルスルホキシド、ジメチルホルムアミド、N-メチル-2-ピロリドンが望ましい。

添加剤(IV)は、溶媒(III)と相溶性を持ち、親水性高分子(II)の良溶媒となり、かつ、ポリスルホン系樹脂(I)の非溶媒又は膨潤剤となるものであれば何でも良く、例えば、水、メタノール、エタノール、イソプロパノール、ヘキサノール、1,4-ブタンジオール等がある。生産コストを考えると水が最も望ましい。添加剤

(IV)は、ポリスルホン系樹脂(I)に対する凝固性を考え合わせた上で選択すれば良い。

これらのおのおのの組合せは任意であり、上記の性質をもつ組合せを考えるのは、同業者にとって容易なことである。また、溶媒(III)・添加剤(IV)は、2種類以上の化合物の混合系でも良い。

かかる製膜原液は、通常の相分離挙動である低温側で相分離するのと逆で、驚くべきことに高温側で相分離がおこる。このことから、凝固浴温度の効果も効率的に利用できるため、特に孔の大きな膜を作るのに非常に有利となる。この原理を以下説明する。

今、この製膜原液がある温度Tで均一系であるとする。この場合、添加剤(IV)は親水性高分子(II)によってポリスルホン系樹脂(I)に対して遮蔽される形となり、直接ポリスルホン系樹脂(I)と相互作用できなくなる。それゆえ、ポリスルホン系樹脂(I)は、親水性高分子(II)が混合されていない系においては当然凝固し、相分離しているような濃度まで添加剤(IV)を加えてもなお相分離することなく均一系を保っている訳である。ここで、温度を上げると、分子の運動性が上がることで、特に親水性高分子(II)と添加剤(IV)との結合が弱くなり、水素結合が切れ、親水性高分子(II)と結合していない添加剤(IV)の見かけ上の濃度が、温度Tのときより上昇する。このためポリスルホン系樹脂(I)と添加剤(IV)とが相互作用することにより、ひいては、ポリスルホン系樹脂(I)の凝固・相分離が引き起こされることになる。即ち、該製膜原液は、高温側で相分離をおこすことになる。さらに、この系の添加剤(IV)の量を増加させると、前記温度Tでもこの原液系においては、もはや親水性高分子(II)の温度Tにおける添加剤(IV)のかかえ込み量以上の添加剤(IV)が加えられたことで、製膜原液は相分離する。しかし、さらに温度を下げると親水性高分子(II)の分子運動性が下がり、添加剤(IV)との結合量が増大し、見かけの添加剤(IV)濃度が下がることで、結果的に系は再び均一系となる。再び温度を上げると、系は不均一になるが、こんどは親水性高分子(II)を添加すると、親水性高分子(II)が添加剤(IV)と結合する量が増え、再び系は均一になる。以上のように、この製膜原液の相分離挙動は通常の逆であり、また相転移に可逆性を有する。

該製膜原液の組成として、ポリスルホン系樹脂(I)は、製膜可能でかつ膜としての特性を有する濃度範囲であれば良く、5~50重量%である。高い透水性、大きな分画分子量を得るためにはポリマー濃度は下げるべき

で、この場合望ましくは5~20重量%である。5重量%未満では、製膜原液の十分な粘度を得ることができず、膜を形成できなくなる。また、50重量%を越えると貫通孔を形成しにくくなる。親水性高分子(II)は、特にポリビニルピロリドンの場合、GAF社から分子量36万、16万、4万、1万のものが市販されており、これを使うのが便利であるが、もちろんそれ以外の分子量のものを使用してもかまわない。ただし、親水性高分子(II)の添加の理由の1つとして増粘効果もあるため、添加量は高分子量のものを用いるほど少量で良く、かつまた相分離現象の温度依存性の逆転も顕著になるため透水性の高い膜を得るためには有利である。ポリビニルピロリドンの添加量は、1~20重量%、特に3~10重量%が望ましいが、用いるポリビニルピロリドンの分子量に左右される。一般に添加量が少なすぎる場合、分子量が低すぎる場合は相分離の逆転現象は得難く、ポリマー濃度が高く、ポリマー分子量が大きすぎると、製膜後の洗浄が困難となる。それ故、分子量の異なるものを混合して役割分担し用いるのも一つの方法となる。以上2つの高分子を溶媒(III)に混合溶解する。ここへ、添加剤(IV)を添加するが、特に水の場合、ポリスルホン系樹脂にとって凝固性が高いため、7重量%以下、特に1~5重量%が望ましい。凝固性が小さな添加剤を用いるときは添加量が多くなることは容易に推測される。本発明では、この第4成分が、添加されるため、親水性高分子の量を少なくすることができる。添加剤(IV)の濃度が高くなるにつれ、製膜原液の相分離温度は低下してくる。相分離温度の設定は、求める膜の透水性や分画分子量により随意にすればよく、例えば、高い透水性・分画分子量を得るためには製膜時に相分離を強力に促進するため低い相分離温度を設定すれば良い。また、凝固浴の温度を高くしても同様の効果は得られる。本発明で用いる製膜原液は、低温で均一系となるため、原液安定性も良い。以上の条件のもとでポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜を得る。製膜操作は、公知技術を用いれば良い。平膜については、該製膜原液を平坦な基板上に流展し、その後凝固浴中に浸漬する。中空糸膜については、中空形態を保つため、注入液を用いる。注入液は、製膜原液に対して凝固性の高いものより、低いものを用いた方が糸糸安定性は良いが、凝固浴温・相分離温度・口金温度との相関で中空糸膜内壁の平滑性が変化するので、適宜最良組成を決めれば良い。ポリスルホン系樹脂に不活性なデカン・オクタン・ウンデカン等の炭化水素を用いても良い。また気体を注入して中空形態を保持させてもよい。乾式長は0.1~20cmであり、特に0.5~5cmが糸糸安定性も良く、さらに望ましい。同一組成、同一条件で製膜した場合、中空糸膜より平膜の方が表面に開孔する孔の直径は大きくなる傾向がある。

かかる方法で得たポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜は、膜中に親水性高分子を残存させることによって、水濡れ性を改

善することもできるし、また残存親水性高分子が水溶性の場合も、 γ 線や熱により架橋させ、水に対して不溶化処理をしておくことも可能で、完全ドライ膜を製造することも可能である。

〔実施例〕

以下の実施例によって本発明をさらに詳細な説明する。以下、用いた測定法は次のとおりである。

(1) 透水性

中空糸膜の場合は、両端に環流液用の孔を備えたガラス製のケースに該中空糸膜を挿入し、市販のポッティング剤を用いて小型モジュールを作製し、37℃に保って中空糸内側に水压をかけ膜を通して外側へ透過する一定時間の水の量と有効膜面積および膜間圧力差から算出する方法で透水性能を測定した。

平膜の場合は、攪拌円筒セルを用いて同様に測定した。

実施例 1

ポリスルホン（ユーデル P-3500）15部、ポリビニルピロリドン（K90）8部、1,4-ブタンジオール7部をジメチルアセトアミド70部に加え、加熱溶解した。この製膜原液は、70℃で相分離するように1,4-ブタンジオールをさらに微量添加して調製した。ペーカー式アプリケーションターを用い、60℃保温でガラス板上に流展後、50℃の水凝固浴で凝固させた。平均孔径約1 μm 、透水性50000 $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{hr} \cdot \text{mmHg}$ の膜を得た。

ここで言う平均孔径とは、膜表面の電子顕微鏡写真から求めたものである。

この膜を含水状態で γ 線処理したあと溶出物試験を行なったところ、溶出物はほとんどなかった。

実施例 2

実施例 1と同じ原液を用いて、原液を30℃に保って同様に製膜した。平均孔径は、約0.7 μm で、透水性は36000 $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{hr} \cdot \text{mmHg}$ であった。

実施例 3

ポリスルホン（ユーデル P-3500）15部、ポリビニルピロリドン（K90）7部、2-プロパノール12部をジメチルアセトアミド66部に加え、加熱溶解した。この製膜原液はさらに、2-プロパノールを微量添加し、35℃で相分離するように調製した。ペーカー式アプリケーションターを用いて、30℃保温でガラス板上に流展し25℃の水凝固浴で凝固させた。平均孔径約0.4 μm の膜を得た。透水性は、13000 $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{hr} \cdot \text{mmHg}$ であった。

実施例 4

実施例 1と同じ組成の原液を外径1.0mm、内径0.7mmの環状オリフィスからなる口金孔内から注入液としてジメチルアセトアミド/水=85/15を注入しつつ吐き出させ、口金面から1.0cm下方に設置した51℃に保温した水を有する凝固浴に通過させ、通常の方法で水洗後カセにまき取り、中空糸条膜を得た。口金は60℃に保温した。得られた中空糸膜の、透水性は1320 $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{hr} \cdot \text{mmHg}$ の性能を

示した。

さらに、この中空糸膜を175℃5時間処理しポリビニルピロリドンを熱架橋したところ、透水性は15800 $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{hr} \cdot \text{mmHg}$ になった。水洗後溶出物試験を行なったところ、溶出物はほとんどなかった。

実施例 5～6

実施例 4と同じ原液で、凝固浴温度、口金温度を変えて中空糸膜を得た。

	凝固浴温度(℃)	口金温度(℃)	透水性 ($\text{ml}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{hr} \cdot \text{mmHg}$)
実施例5	22.5	25	350
実施例6	50	26	770

実施例 7

ポリスルホン15部、ポリビニルピロリドン（K90）8部、水2部をジメチルアセトアミド75部に加熱溶解し、65℃で相分離がおこるように調製した。注入液にジメチルアセトアミド/水=85/15を用いて、実施例 4と同様にして中空糸膜を得た。凝固浴の水温は70℃、口金は60℃に保温して行なった。透水性1980 $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{hr} \cdot \text{mmHg}$ の性能を得た。

実施例 8

ポリスルホン15部、ポリビニルピロリドン（K30）10部、水2部をジメチルアセトアミド73部に加熱溶解し、35℃で相分離をおこすように調製した。実施例 4と同様に、凝固浴温度72℃、口金温度36℃で紡糸した。得られた中空糸膜は透水性12000 $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{hr} \cdot \text{mmHg}$ の性能を有した。

比較例 1

ポリスルホン12部、ポリビニルピロリドン6部をN-メチルピロリドン82部に加え、加熱溶解した。この原液を50℃に保温し、実施例 1と同様にして製膜した。透水性は600 $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{hr} \cdot \text{mmHg}$ と低いものであった。

比較例 2

比較例 1の原液で、原液と室温に保って同様に製膜した。透水性は250 $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{hr} \cdot \text{mmHg}$ であった。

比較例 3

ポリスルホン15部、ジメチルアセトアミド83部に水2部を加え、加熱溶解し比較例 1と同様にして製膜したが、透水性は25 $\text{ml}/\text{m}^2 \cdot \text{hr} \cdot \text{mmHg}$ と低いものしか得られなかった。

比較例 4

比較例 1～2の膜に、ポリビニルピロリドンの抽出、熱架橋処理と施すと、透水性はほとんど0となった。

〔発明の効果〕

本発明は高温側でミクロン相分離する製膜原液を用いるので、ポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜の、透水性、分画分子量を広範囲にとることができる。原液条件、製膜条件を適切に選ぶことにより、複合膜の支持体も製造可能であ

る。かつ、得られるポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜は、目づ
まり、汚れに対して強い、ため、逆浸透膜から、高性能限
外濾過膜（あるいは精密濾過膜）まで、一般産業用途及*

*びメディカル分野の血液成分分離膜として使用すること
ができる。

フロントページの続き

(56)参考文献 特開 昭59-139902 (J P, A)

特開 昭58-24305 (J P, A)

特開 昭55-31474 (J P, A)

実開 昭59-162901 (J P, U)

【公報種別】特許法（平成 6 年法律第 116 号による改正前。）第 17 条の 3 の規定による補正

【部門区分】第 2 部門第 1 区分

【発行日】平成 10 年（1998）11 月 11 日

【公告番号】特公平 6-75667

【公告日】平成 6 年（1994）9 月 28 日

【年通号数】特許公報 6-1892

【出願番号】特願昭 60-80371

【特許番号】2133556

【国際特許分類第 6 版】

B01D 71/68

【手続補正書】

1 「特許請求の範囲」の項を「1 ポリスルホン系樹脂と親水性高分子を混和溶解した溶液に該ポリスルホン系樹脂対して非溶媒もしくは膨潤剤なる添加剤を加えた系を製膜原液として用い、成形した膜を γ 線架橋することを特徴とするポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜の製造方法。

2 親水性高分子が、ポリビニルピロリドンである特許請求の範囲第 1 項に記載のポリスルホン系樹脂半透膜の製造方法。」と補正する。

2 第 4 欄 23 行「架橋」を「 γ 線架橋」と補正する。

3 第 6 欄 50 行～第 7 欄 4 行「改善することも……可能である」を「改善することができ、また残存親水性高分子が γ 線架橋され、水に対して不溶化処理がされているため、完全ドライ膜とすることができる」と補正する。

4 第 7 欄 30 行～第 8 欄 29 行「実施例 2……有した。」を削除する。

5 第 8 欄 43 行～45 行「比較例 4……0 となった。」を削除する。

* NOTICES *

JPO and NCIPi are not responsible for any damages caused by the use of this translation.

1.This document has been translated by computer. So the translation may not reflect the original precisely.

2.**** shows the word which can not be translated.

3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] the solution which carried out the mixing dissolution of polysulfone system resin and the hydrophilic macromolecule -- this polysulfone system resin -- receiving -- a non-solvent -- or -- a swelling agent -- the manufacture approach of the polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane characterized by constructing a bridge in the fabricated film, using the system which added the additive as a film production undiluted solution.

[Claim 2] The manufacture approach of polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane given in the 1st term of the range of the application for patent whose hydrophilic giant molecule is a polyvinyl pyrrolidone.

[Translation done.]

* NOTICES *

JPO and NCIPi are not responsible for any damages caused by the use of this translation.

- 1.This document has been translated by computer. So the translation may not reflect the original precisely.
- 2.**** shows the word which can not be translated.
- 3.In the drawings, any words are not translated.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[Industrial Application]

This invention relates to the manufacture approach of polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane.

[Description of the Prior Art]

Conventionally, as a material of semipermeable membrane, many high molecular compounds, such as a cellulose acetate polyacrylonitrile polymethyl-methacrylate polyamide, have been used. On the other hand, although originally used as engineering plastics, since polysulfone system resin has the heat-resistant stability, acid-proof and alkali resistance and biocompatibility, and good resistance to contamination, it attracts attention as a semipermeable membrane material.

JP,58-194940,A etc. is conventionally proposed as an approach of obtaining the semipermeable membrane also using polysulfone system resin in for example, journal OBU applied polymer Science (20 volumes, 2377-2394 pages, 1976) and (said 21 volumes, 1883-1900 pages and 1977). However, since this resin has too strong intermolecular cohesive force and blockades a surface hole and the internal hole which should be penetrated, control of hole formation becomes difficult. For this reason, only the thing with a as small and cut off molecular weight which also has small water permeability as [or less] 100,000 is obtained.

On the other hand, the following means are proposed in recent years as an attempt which opens a big hole in a front face by the film using polysulfone system resin.

** How to use the micron phase separation between different-species polymers. (JP,48-176,B, JP,54-144456,A, a 57-50506 official report, a 57-50507 official report, 57-50508 official report)

** How to have an extract and elution actuation after film production. (JP,54-26283,A, a 57-35906 official report, 58-91822 official report)

** How to produce a film in the state of metastable liquid distribution of a film production undiluted solution. (JP,56-154051,A, a 59-58041 official report, a 59-183761 official report, 59-189903 official report)

** How to put creativity at the time of spinning (JP,59-228016,A)

However, by the approach of **, it has come to obtain a 100,000 or more-cut off molecular weight big hole only by using the difference in the coagulation rate between polymers. In order to blend in large quantities moreover, the original good engine performance of polysulfone system resin is easy to be lost. Moreover, the approach of ** is eluted, it is large and an extract and the inorganic granulation of blend polymer are classified into two approaches. In the former, although polyethylene glucol and a polyvinyl pyrrolidone were main polymers, obtaining sufficient aperture and extract operation were difficult. Although it has succeeded in mixing silica powder, carrying out elution after film production by said JP,58-91822,A using alkali, and opening a big hole 0.05 micrometers or more in the latter example, the film which takes other pore size distribution from the same film production undiluted solution cannot be manufactured by this manufacture approach. ** Just before an approach mixes the non-solvent or swelling agent of polysulfone system resin in large quantities to a film production undiluted solution and this film production undiluted solution carries out phase separation, it is a thing which it is and

which produces a film by the way. By this approach, there is a fault which cannot use the temperature effect of a coagulation bath advantageously. ** Although an approach is spraying the wind of high humidity at the time of film production and aperture expansion in this front face is realized, if there is the effectiveness only in one side and it results especially in a hollow fiber, by this approach, only the thing of the range where a cut off molecular weight is small is obtained.

The manufacture approach of the polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane of these former has the description in which the film production undiluted solution carries out phase separation at low temperature. For this reason, even if it gathered the rate of exchange of the non-solvent in a coagulation bath, etc. and the good solvent in the film and raised coagulation bath temperature utterly at the time of film production, in order that a film production undiluted solution might carry out balanced migration to the direction of a homogeneous system, it was what has the fault that a compact layer tends to be made on a front face, and the fault that the various semipermeable membrane which has broadly water permeability and a cut off molecular weight from the same undiluted solution cannot be manufactured.

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention]

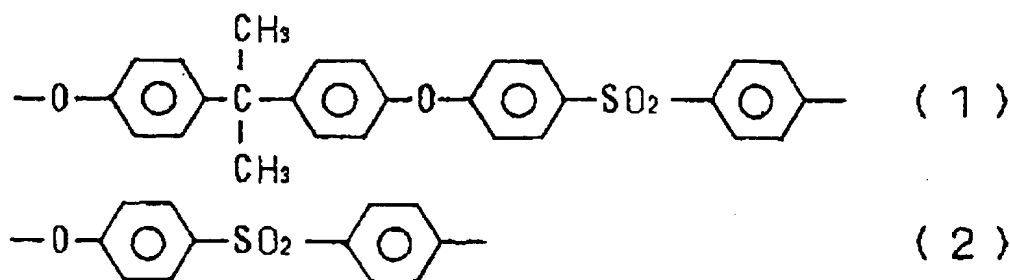
this invention persons analyzed the above-mentioned fault, and as a result of inquiring wholeheartedly, they reached this invention. It aims at offering the manufacture approach of the polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane which can take water permeability and a cut off molecular weight broadly, and neither loading nor dirt can start especially easily.

[Means for Solving the Problem]

This invention has the next configuration. namely, the solution which carried out the mixing dissolution of (1) polysulfone system resin and the hydrophilic macromolecule -- this polysulfone system resin -- receiving -- a non-solvent -- or -- a swelling agent -- the manufacture approach of the polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane characterized by constructing a bridge in the fabricated film, using the system which added the additive as a film production undiluted solution.

(2) A hydrophilic giant molecule is the manufacture approach of polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane given in the 1st term of the range of the application for patent which is a polyvinyl pyrrolidone.

The film production undiluted solution used in order to manufacture polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane in this invention consists of 4 component systems which consist of polysulfone system resin (I), a hydrophilic macromolecule (II), a solvent (III), and an additive (IV) fundamentally. the polysulfone system resin (I) said here -- usually -- a formula (1) -- or (2) --



Although it consists of a ***** unit, the functional group is included, or you may be the thing of an alkyl system and it does not limit especially.

A hydrophilic macromolecule (II) is a macromolecule which there are polysulfone system resin (I) and compatibility, and has a hydrophilic property. Although a polyvinyl pyrrolidone is the best and a denaturation polyvinyl pyrrolidone, a copolymerization polyvinyl pyrrolidone, polyvinyl acetate, a polyethylene glycol, etc. are mentioned to others, it is not limited to these.

Both solvents (III) are solvents which dissolve polysulfone system resin (I) and a hydrophilic macromolecule (II). Dimethyl sulfoxide, dimethylacetamide, dimethylformamide, a N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, the dioxane of dimethylacetamide, dimethyl sulfoxide, dimethylformamide, and a N-

methy1-2-pyrrolidone, etc. are especially desirable although various solvents are used. If an additive (IV) has a solvent (III) and compatibility, and serves as a good solvent of a hydrophilic macromolecule (II) and it becomes the non-solvent of polysulfone system resin (I), or a swelling agent, anything, it is good, for example, has water, a methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, a hexanol, 1,4-butanediol, etc. Considering a production cost, water is the most desirable. What is necessary is just to choose an additive (IV), after taking the freezing characteristic over polysulfone system resin (I) into consideration.

Easy for men of the same trade considers the combination which is arbitrary in each as for these combination, and has the above-mentioned property. Moreover, the mixed stock of two or more kinds of compounds is sufficient as a solvent (III) and an additive (IV).

Phase separation starts this film production undiluted solution to a thing contrary to carrying out phase separation by the low temperature side which is the usual phase separation behavior, and surprising by the elevated-temperature side. Since the effectiveness of coagulation bath temperature can also be efficiently used from this, it becomes very advantageous to making the big film of especially a hole. This principle is explained below.

Now, suppose that it is a homogeneous system at the temperature T with this film production undiluted solution. An additive (IV) serves as a form covered to polysulfone system resin (I) with a hydrophilic macromolecule (II), and it becomes impossible in this case, to interact with direct polysulfone system resin (I). So, naturally polysulfone system resin (I) solidifies in the system with which the hydrophilic macromolecule (II) is not mixed, and it is maintaining the homogeneous system, without in addition carrying out phase separation, even if it adds an additive (IV) to concentration which is carrying out phase separation. if temperature is raised, the maneuverability of a molecule will go up here -- especially, association with a hydrophilic macromolecule (II) and an additive (IV) becomes weak, hydrogen bond goes out, and the concentration on the appearance of the additive (IV) which has not been combined with a hydrophilic macromolecule (II) rises from the time of temperature T. For this reason, if it pulls when polysulfone system resin (I) and an additive (IV) interact, the coagulation and phase separation of polysulfone system resin (I) will be caused. That is, this film production undiluted solution will start phase separation by the elevated-temperature side. Furthermore, if the amount of the additive (IV) of this system is made to increase, it will be that the additive (IV) in the temperature T of a hydrophilic macromolecule (II) has already held, and the additive more than an amount (IV) was added in this undiluted solution system also at said temperature T, and phase separation of the film production undiluted solution will be carried out. However, if temperature is lowered further, the molecular motion nature of a hydrophilic macromolecule (II) will fall, the amount of association with an additive (IV) increases, and a system turns into a homogeneous system again as a result because apparent additive (IV) concentration falls. If temperature is raised again, a system will become an ununiformity, but shortly, if a hydrophilic macromolecule (II) is added, the amount which a hydrophilic macromolecule (II) combines with an additive (IV) will increase, and a system will become homogeneity again. As mentioned above, the phase separation behavior of this film production undiluted solution is the usual reverse, and has reversibility in phase transition.

As a presentation of this film production undiluted solution, polysulfone system resin (I) is 5 - 50 % of the weight that what is necessary is just the density range which can produce a film and has a property as film. In order to obtain high water permeability and a big cut off molecular weight, polymer concentration should be lowered and is 5 - 20 % of the weight desirably in this case. It becomes impossible to obtain sufficient viscosity of a film production undiluted solution, but to form the film at less than 5 % of the weight. Moreover, if 50 % of the weight is exceeded, it will be hard coming to form a through tube. In the case of a polyvinyl pyrrolidone, the thing of molecular weight 360,000, 160,000, 40,000, and 10,000 is marketed from GAF, as for especially the hydrophilic giant molecule (II), it is convenient to use this, but the thing of the other natural molecular weight may be used for it. However, as one of the reasons of addition of a hydrophilic macromolecule (II), for a certain reason, the thickening effectiveness is also so little that an addition uses the thing of the amount of macromolecules, good, and since the inversion of the

temperature dependence of a phase separation phenomenon also becomes remarkable again, in order to obtain the permeable high film, it is advantageous. One to 20% of the weight, although especially the addition of a polyvinyl pyrrolidone has 3 - 10 desirable % of the weight, it is influenced by the molecular weight of the polyvinyl pyrrolidone to be used. When there are generally too few additions, and molecular weight is too low, if the inversion phenomenon of phase separation is difficult to get, polymer concentration is high and polymer molecular weight is too large, washing after film production will become difficult. So, it also becomes one approach to mix that from which molecular weight differs, to carry out a role assignment, and to use. The mixed dissolution of the two macromolecules is carried out above at a solvent (III). Since it is high, 1 - 5 % of the weight has freezing characteristic desirable especially especially in the case of water although an additive (IV) is added here 7 or less % of the weight for polysulfone system resin. When using an additive with small freezing characteristic, it is guessed easily that an addition increases. In this invention, since this 4th component is added, the amount of a hydrophilic macromolecule can be lessened. The phase separation temperature of a film production undiluted solution falls as the concentration of an additive (IV) becomes high. What is necessary is just to set up low phase separation temperature, in order to obtain high water permeability and cut off molecular weight and to promote phase separation powerfully at the time of film production that what is necessary is just to make a setup of phase separation temperature into **** by the water permeability of the film for which it asks, or the cut off molecular weight. Moreover, the same effectiveness is acquired even if it makes temperature of a coagulation bath high. Since the film production undiluted solution used by this invention serves as a homogeneous system at low temperature, its undiluted solution stability is also good.

Polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane is obtained under the above conditions. Film production actuation should just use a well-known technique. About a flat film, this film production undiluted solution is flowed on a flush substrate, and it is immersed into a coagulation bath after that. About a hollow fiber, in order to maintain a hollow gestalt, infusion is used. although it is [spinning stability] better to use a thing lower than the high thing of freezing characteristic for infusion to a film production undiluted solution -- coagulation bath temperature and phase separation temperature, and a mouthpiece -- what is necessary is just to decide the best presentation suitably, since the smooth nature of a hollow fiber wall changes by correlation with temperature. Hydrocarbons, such as the inactive Deccan octane undecane, may be used for polysulfone system resin. Moreover, a gas may be poured in and a hollow gestalt may be made to hold. Dry type length is 0.1-20cm, and 0.5-5cm is [spinning stability] still more desirable especially well. When a film is produced on the same presentation and the same conditions, the diameter of the hole which the flat film punctures on a front face from a hollow fiber tends to become large.

The polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane obtained by this approach is possible also for water wettability being also improvable by making a hydrophilic macromolecule remain in the film, and making a bridge construct with a gamma ray or heat, also when a residual hydrophilic-property macromolecule is water solubility, and carrying out insolubilization processing to water, and can also manufacture the perfect dry film.

[Example]

still more detailed [in this invention] by the following examples -- it explains.

Hereafter, the used measuring method is as follows.

(1) In the case of the permeable hollow fiber, this hollow fiber was inserted in the glass case which equipped both ends with the hole for ring current liquid, it produced the small module using the commercial potting agent, and measured permeable ability by the approach of compute from the amount of the water of fixed time amount which keeps at 37 degrees C, pours water pressure on the hollow filament inside, and is penetrated outside through the film, an effective film surface product, and the differential pressure between film.

In the case of the flat film, it measured similarly using the churning cylinder cel.

The example 1 polysulfone (YUDERU P-3500) 15 section, the polyvinyl-pyrrolidone (K90) 8

section, and the 1,4-butanediol 7 section were added to the dimethylacetamide 70 section, and the heating dissolution was carried out. Minute amount addition was carried out further and this film production undiluted solution prepared 1,4-butanediol so that phase separation might be carried out at 70 degrees C. It was made to solidify by the 50-degree C water coagulation bath after a flowing on a glass plate by 60-incubation using a baker type applicator. The film of about 1 micrometer of average apertures, and permeable 50000 ml/m² and hr-mmHg was obtained. the average aperture said here -- **** -- it asks from the electron microscope photograph on the front face of the film.

After carrying out gamma ray processing of this film by the moisture state, when the eluting material test was performed, there was almost no effluent.

Using the same undiluted solution as example 2, example 1, the undiluted solution was kept at 30 degrees C, and the film was produced similarly. The average aperture was about 0.7 micrometers and water permeability was 36000 ml/m² and hr-mmHg.

The example 3 polysulfone (YUDERU P-3500) 15 section, the polyvinyl-pyrrolidone (K90) 7 section, and the 2-propanol 12 section were added to the dimethylacetamide 66 section, and the heating dissolution was carried out. This film production undiluted solution was prepared so that minute amount addition of the 2-propanol might be carried out and phase separation might be further carried out at 35 degrees C. It flowed on the glass plate by 30-degree-C incubation, and was made to solidify by the 25-degree C water coagulation bath using a baker type applicator. The film of about 0.4 micrometers of average apertures was obtained. Water permeability was 13000 ml/m² and hr-mmHg.

the mouthpiece which consists the undiluted solution of the same presentation as example 4 example 1 of an annular orifice with an outer diameter [of 1.0mm], and a bore of 0.7mm -- it breathes out, pouring in dimethylacetamide / water =85/15 as infusion from the inside of a hole -- making -- a mouthpiece -- the coagulation bath which has water which kept it warm at 51 degrees C caudad installed 1.0cm from the field was passed, it rolled round to the skein after rinsing by the usual approach, and the hollow line-of-thread film was obtained. The mouthpiece kept it warm at 60 degrees C. The water permeability of the obtained hollow fiber showed the engine performance of 1320 ml/m² and hr-mmHg.

Furthermore, when 175 degrees C of this hollow fiber were processed for 5 hours and heat bridge formation of the polyvinyl pyrrolidone was carried out, water permeability became 15800ml/[m] 2 and hr-mmHg. When the eluting material test after rinsing was performed, there was almost no effluent.

the same undiluted solution as five to example 6 example 4 -- coagulation bath temperature and a mouthpiece -- temperature was changed and the hollow fiber was obtained.

	凝固浴温度(°C)	口金温度(°C)	透水性 (ml/m ² ・hr・mmHg)
実施例5	22.5	25	350
実施例6	50	26	770

It prepared so that the heating dissolution might be carried out and phase separation might start the example 7 polysulfone 15 section, the polyvinyl-pyrrolidone (K90) 8 section, and the water 2 section in the dimethylacetamide 75 section at 65 degrees C. Dimethylacetamide / water =85/15 were used for infusion, and the hollow fiber was obtained like the example 4. It carried out by keeping the water temperature of a coagulation bath warm at 70 degrees C, and a mouthpiece keeping it warm at 60 degrees C. The engine performance of permeable 1980 ml/m² and hr-mmHg was obtained.

The heating dissolution of the example 8 polysulfone 15 section, the polyvinyl-pyrrolidone (K30) 10 section, and the water 2 section was carried out at the dimethylacetamide 73 section, and it prepared so that phase separation might be started at 35 degrees C. an example 4 -- the same -- the coagulation bath temperature of 72 degrees C, and a mouthpiece -- spinning was carried

out at the temperature of 36 degrees C. It was obtained and the hollow fiber had the engine performance of permeable 12000 ml/m² and hr-mmHg.

The example of comparison 1 polysulfone 12 section and the polyvinyl-pyrrolidone 6 section were added to the N-methyl pyrrolidone 82 section, and the heating dissolution was carried out. This undiluted solution was kept warm at 50 degrees C, and the film was produced like the example 1. Water permeability was as low as 600 ml/m² and hr-mmHg.

With the undiluted solution of the example 1 of example of comparison 2 comparison, it maintained at the undiluted solution and the room temperature, and the film was produced similarly. Water permeability was 250 ml/m² and hr-mmHg.

Although the water 2 section was added to the example of comparison 3 polysulfone 15 section, and the dimethylacetamide 83 section, the heating dissolution was carried out and the film was produced like the example 1 of a comparison, only what has as low water permeability as 25ml [/m] 2 and hr-mmHg was obtained.

When it gave the film of the examples 1-2 of example of comparison 4 comparison with the extract of a polyvinyl pyrrolidone, and heat bridge formation processing, most water permeability was set to 0.

[Effect of the Invention]

Since this invention uses the film production undiluted solution which carries out micron phase separation by the elevated-temperature side, the water permeability of polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane and a cut off molecular weight can be taken broadly. The base material of bipolar membrane can also be manufactured by choosing undiluted solution conditions and film production conditions appropriately. And to loading and dirt, since it is strong, the polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane obtained can be used as a general industrial use way and a constituent-of-blood demarcation membrane of a medical field from a reverse osmotic membrane to high performance ultrafiltration membrane (or micro filter).

[Translation done.]

* NOTICES *

JPO and NCIP are not responsible for any damages caused by the use of this translation.

1. This document has been translated by computer. So the translation may not reflect the original precisely.
2. **** shows the word which can not be translated.
3. In the drawings, any words are not translated.

CORRECTION OR AMENDMENT

[Kind of official gazette] Amendment by the convention of 3 of Article (before amendment by the Heisei 6 law No. 116.) 17 of Patent Law

[Section partition] The 1st partition of the 2nd section

[Publication date] November 11, Heisei 10 (1998)

[Public notice number] Japanese Patent Publication No. 6-75667

[Public notice day] September 28, Heisei 6 (1994)

[Annual volume number] Patent official report 6-1892

[Application number] Japanese Patent Application No. 60-80371

[Patent number] 2133556

[International Patent Classification (6th Edition)]

B01D 71/68

[Procedure revision]

1 the solution which carried out the mixing dissolution of "1 polysulfone system resin and the hydrophilic macromolecule for the term of a "claim" -- this polysulfone system resin pair -- carrying out -- a non-solvent -- or -- a swelling agent -- the manufacture approach of the polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane characterized by carrying out gamma ray bridge formation of the fabricated film, using the system which added the additive as a film production undiluted solution.

2 The manufacture approach of polysulfone system resin semipermeable membrane given in the 1st term of the range of the application for patent whose hydrophilic giant molecule is a polyvinyl pyrrolidone. It amends as ".

2 Amend the 4th column "bridge formation" of 23 lines with "gamma ray bridge formation."

3 the 6th column of 50 lines - the 7th column of four lines -- " -- also improving it is possible -- " -- amend, saying "since it can improve, and gamma ray bridge formation of the residual hydrophilic-property macromolecule is carried out and insolubilization processing is carried out to water, it can consider as the perfect dry film."

4 the 7th column of 30 lines - the 8th column of 29 lines -- " -- an example 2 it had -- " -- delete.

5 Delete the 8th column "it became the example 4....0 of a comparison." of - of 43 lines 45 lines.

[Translation done.]

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ **BLACK BORDERS**
- ☐ **IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES**
- ☐ **FADED TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING**
- ☐ **SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES**
- ☐ **COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS**
- ☐ **GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS**
- ☒ **LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT**
- ☐ **REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY**
- ☐ **OTHER:** _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.